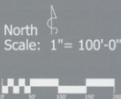


# Amazon Park Concept Design

May 25, 2004



## Tennis Courts

Expand existing courts to the south.  
4 new courts with lights.

## Multi-Use Fields

Renovate and expand existing Century Field into multi-use playing fields. Flexible layout allows field rotation. Baseball accommodated with portable backstop. No field lighting.

## Shared Facilities

Coordinate with 43 school district regarding future replacement of Roosevelt Middle School, shared parking and field facilities, and open space continuity.

## Amazon Creek

Make holistic improvements to the creek profile and accompanying vegetation, based on a comprehensive creek study.

## Native Plant Buffer

Enhance and expand low lying areas by planting native grasses and forbs.

## Ash Woodland

Remove invasive vegetation and remove old fill piles.

## Path Connection

New east/west path connection to bike path.

## Creek Crossing

The Zig Zag Bridge, a 1% for Art installation, provides connectivity, visual interest, and creek viewing.

## Boardwalk

Construct boardwalk segment through ash woodland for educational opportunities and connectivity.

## Wetland Prairie

Increase diversity of existing prairie plant population by planting native plugs.

## Planning Principles

**A balance of uses.** Developed portions of the park such as athletic fields, the pool, playground, and dog park are vital components to a healthy and active community. Likewise, the undeveloped or natural portions of the park such as the ash woodlands, Amazon Creek, and wetland prairies offer habitat for wildlife and inspiration from their beauty. There is an approximate ratio of 50 % developed areas and 50% natural areas in Amazon Park. This balance seems appropriate and should be maintained.

**Unprogrammed spaces.** Some of the most cherished portions of the park are the open expanses of lawn. It is in these areas where some of our favorite activities occur; picnics, kite flying, sun-bathing and frisbee. These open lawn areas should be protected from encroaching development.

**Safety and access.** Tree lined connections with safe street crossings into adjacent neighborhoods is a goal for all sides of the park. Access for persons with disabilities is a priority and will be addressed with all new construction projects. By creating a park which is continually utilized and enjoyed by friends and neighbors, safety and security within the park is elevated.

**Lighting.** Lighting levels within the park should be kept at a minimum. Additional lighting is proposed in two locations, along the central bike path for nighttime travel safety and with the tennis court expansion. All new fixtures must conform with new shielded lighting standards. Additionally, existing park lighting which does not meet today's standards should be replaced as resources allow with shielded fixtures to reduce glare and unwanted light spill over.

**Views.** Careful consideration must be given with every new development, be it a new restroom building or the planting of a tree, to ensure preservation of views. Of particular importance are the long views looking north and south along the bike path. Additionally, more short-range views across a stretch of lawn or wetland should not be cluttered.

**Natural area protection and enhancement.** Unique natural habitats are found within Amazon Park and deserve not only preservation, but continued enhancement. An in-depth study of potential enhancements of the creek is being pursued in partnership with the Army Corp of Engineers. A thriving population of the endangered plant species, Bradshaw's lomatium is present in the park and is an indicator of how successful natural area management practices are. Increasing the diversity of species within the wetland prairies and ash woodlands is a worthy and achievable goal.

**Education opportunities.** Amazon Park is unique for it's natural resource values within an urban setting which is surrounded by schools and residents. Such a setting is ripe for environmental education. An interpretive program should be developed for the park which is holistic in approach, emphasizing the unique qualities of Amazon within the Eugene area, and is tailored to it's audience. Such a program may include art, trails, signage, and programmed activities.

**Signage.** A comprehensive system of signage is needed to address the many informational needs. Types of signs include facility signs, directional signs and maps, educational signs, and rules signs.

## Park Access

Explore opportunities for safe crossing across Amazon Parkway.

## Adidas Trail

Renovate Adidas Trail with drainage and surfacing improvements.  
Replace existing lighting.

## Fitness Station

Replace and renovate fitness equipment station.

## Dog Park

Expand by relocating fence, resurface paths, install new gates, plant trees, and add benches.  
Add drainage improvements and improve turf area.

## Land Acquisition

Acquire inholding properties as they become available through willing sellers. Potential uses include additional parking and a skatepark.

## Path Connection

New path connection to Roosevelt Middle School.

## Overflow Parking

Temporary overflow parking to accommodate large pool crowds. To be discontinued with development of additional parking at adjacent school or potential acquisition site.

## Hilyard Community Center Landscaping

Create a courtyard/ garden space for outdoor gatherings and specialized gardening.

## Park Access

Remove existing mid-block crossing and install new fully-signalized intersection at 26th and Hilyard.

## Amazon Pool

Add cover to lap pool for year-round use.

## Path Connection

Re-route bike path around play area and along wetland edge.

## Wetland Overlook

Remove defunct wading pool and develop wetland overlook and interpretive program.

## Children's Play Area

Renovate and expand children's play area.  
Incorporate sand area for tot play.

## Picnic Area

Improve accessibility and replace vegetation.

## Restroom

New restroom to serve playground/picnic area and bike path.

## Park Access

New pedestrian crossing zone at 28th and Hilyard.

## Park Amenities

New benches and plantings along bike path.

## Skatepark

Expand skatepark in present location, or preferably on proposed acquisition site north of Hilyard Center.

## Park Access

Improve safety of bikepath underpass.